GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Registration & Stamps Department – Surprise Check conducted by ACB over Sub Registrar's Office, Chimakurthy on 15-03-2017 – Allegations of corruption against Smt.T.Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar and Sri Dhanyasi Raj Kumar, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o Joint SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District – Departmental proceedings initiated against Smt.T.Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991 - Articles of Charge - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.310 **Dated:19.02.2019**

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ORDER:

It is proposed to hold an inquiry against the Smt.T.Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the enquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of Articles of Charge (Annexure-I), Statement of imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of the Articles charge framed is enclosed (Annexure-II). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the Articles of Charge are proposed to be sustained (Annexure-III & IV) are also enclosed.

3. Smt.Tavva Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District is directed to submit her written statement of defence within (15) days of the receipt of this order.

4. Smt.Tavva Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District is informed that an enquiry under Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules 1991, will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charge as are not admitted. She should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each Article of Charge.

5. Smt.Tavva Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District it is further informed that if she does not submit her written statement of defence within the time specified in para 3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available on record.

6. Attention of Smt.Tavva Hema Latha, Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further her interest in respect of matters pertaining to her service under the Government. If any representation is received on her behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that she is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action shall be taken against her for violation of rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Contd.,2

7. The receipt of the order be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

To
The Individual.
(**through** Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Ongole)
The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Eedupugallu, Vijayawada.
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Ongole. (with a request to serve the original to the Charged Officer with dated signature and return the same for record.)
Copy to
The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau, Andhra Pradesh, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, NTR Administrative Block, 2nd Floor, Vijayawada
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, APVC, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi.
Sf/Sc

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. TAVVA HEMA LATHA, JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR

That Smt. Tavva Hema Latha, W/o Nookala Ratna Mohan Rao is a native of Ongole Town, Prakasam District. Her date of birth is 01-06-1963. She joined in Government service on 17.05.1983 and she worked as Joint Sub-Registrar, Chimakruthy, Prakasam District, during the period from 30.10.2014 to 15.03.2017, her date of attaining superannuation is 30-06-2023. She is herin after referred to as Government Servant.

Article of Charge No.I:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed unauthorized person Boddu Rama Rao to act as Data Entry Operator and to collect illegal gratifications from the document writers who collected fees to fees from the vendees who purchased immovable properties. She was getting documentation done through private document writers in violation of G.O.Ms.No.108, Revenue (Registration-I) Department, dt.21-02-2000 and Circular Memo No.X1/3945/07, dt.02-05-2007 of Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps.

Article of Charge No.II:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed document writer and Assistant document writer, into the office of Sub-Registrar, Chimakurthy in violation of G.O.Ms.No.108, Revenue (Registration-I) Department, dt.21-02-2000.

Article of Charge No.III:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has illegally collected an amount of Rs.31,380/- through unauthorized private person, document and Assistant document writers and failed to account the same, out of which Rs.21,380/- was collected through one unauthorized person Boddu Rama Rao. During the surprise check, an unauthorized amount of Rs. 10,000/- was found in the possession of K.Rama Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer which is to be given to SRO through the aforesaid private person.

Article of Charge No.IV:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed Sri Puli Nageswara Rao to work as Attendar unauthorizedly in the SRO's office, Chimakurthy by paying monthly salary in violation of instructions issued vide Circular Memo No X1/3945/07, dt.02-05-2007 of Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps.

Article of Charge No.V:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar failed to declare any amount in her possession in Personal Cash Register and she was found to be having Rs.200/- in her possession during surprise check in violation of G.O.Ms.No.200, General Administration (Ser-C) Department, Dt.26.3.2007, Andhra Pradesh.

Thus Smt. Tavva Hema Latha, by her above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of a Government Servant and thereby contravened Rule 3 (1), 3 (2) & 9 (8) (B) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964.

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. TAVVA HEMA LATHA, JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR

Smt. Tavva Hema Latha, W/o Nookala Ratna Mohan Rao is a native of Ongole Town, Prakasam District. Her date of birth is 01-06-1963. She joined in Government Service on 17.05.1983 and she worked as Joint Sub-Registrar, Chimakruthy, Prakasam District from 30.10.2014 to 15.03.2017. Her date of attaining superannuation is 30-06-2023. She is here-in-after referred to as Government Servant.

Article of Charge No.I:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed unauthorized person Boddu Rama Rao to act as Data Entry Operator and to collect illegal gratifications from the document writers who collected fees to fees from the vendees who purchased immovable properties. She was getting documentation done through private document writers in violation of G.O.Ms.No.108, Revenue (Registration-I) Department, dt.21-02-2000 and Circular Memo No.X1/3945/07, dt.02-05-2007 of Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps."

Basis of Charge :

On receipt of credible information about the irregularities and corrupt practices in office of the Joint Sub-Registrar, Chimakruthy, Prakasam District, a surprise check was conducted on 15.03.2017 from 8.00 P.M. to 00.30 A.M. on 16.03.2017 by the officials of the Anti-Corruption Bureau, Prakasam District, Ongole along with the independent mediators.

During the Surprise check, on seeing the members of surprise check some persons available in the premises i.e. in the main hall and verandah of O/o the Sub-Registrar, Chimakurthy tried to run away from there. The Deputy Superintendent of Police with the assistance of staff prevented them from fleeing. They are 5 in number and the Deputy Superintendent of Police kept the said 5 persons under surveillance. Then the Deputy Superintendent of Police questioned about the identity of the 5 persons who took to heels on seeing the Anti Corruption Bureau party. One among them Sri Boddu Rama Rao disclosed his identity as Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Private Data Entry Operator, O/o Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy. On examination he stated that he was engaged unauthorisedly by the Sub Registrar Office Smt. T. Hame Latha to act as Private Data Entry Operator and he will be paid Rs.15000/- per month by the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy and entrusted the duty of collecting mamools at the rate of 1% on the sale consideration value of the document from the document writers. He added that the document writers would bring the mamools to the Sub Registrar Office office with regard to the documents presented by them on that particular day during that evening or on the next day morning and give the same to him. In turn, he would hand over the total amount of collected mamools to Joint Sub-Registrar, Chimakurthy at the end of the day before the closing time of the office and those mamools would be distributed among other staff of Sub Registrar Office also. He produced an amount of Rs. 21,380/-which was collected illegally from the parties who came to the Sub Registrar Office for registration of their properties and the same was seized.

Thus Smt. Tavva Hema Latha, by her above mentioned acts has violated Rule 3 (1), 3 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964.

Contd.,2

Article of Charge No.II:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed document writer and Assistant document writer, into the office of Sub-Registrar, Chimakurthy in violation of G.O.Ms.No.108, Revenue (Registration-I) Department, dt.21-02-2000."

Basis of Charge :

During the Surprise check, the Deputy Superintendent of Police questioned two persons among them, who disclosed their identity as 1) Sri Mannam Rama Krishna, S/o Subba Rao, age 35-yrs, Document Writer, MRO office Road, Chimakurthy and 2) Sri Kota Ram Mohan Rao, S/o Narasimha Rao, age 33 yrs, Assistant Document Writer to Sri Mannam Rama Krishna (Document Writer), R/o Manduvavaripalem (V), Ongole (M). On examination they categorically stated that on the instructions of the Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurthy they collect mamools from the parties approaching them to give the mamools to the staff of Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy. Generally, they collect mamool amount on par with the registration fee i.e., one percent of the value of the sale deed and some parties do oblige and some parties do not. They are being paid 10% of the amount, in fee to fee mamool which was collected by them, as their commission (for collecting mamools) on behalf of Sub Registrar Office. On the day of surprise check i.e., 15.03.2017 he prepared two documents in the morning and while going to Ongole he entrusted the duty of presenting the documents to his Assistant Kota Rama Mohan Rao. After his return from Ongole, Rama Mohan Rao informed that both the documents presented by them were registered vide Doc.Nos.427/2017 & 428/2017 and the party which got registered document No.428/2017 wherein the sale consideration value was Rs.34,85,000/- and the mamools supposed to be around Rs.35,000/-, gave Rs.10,000/- only towards mamools to the Sub Registrar Office office. They pay mamools to Sri Boddu Rama Rao, who was unauthorizedly engaged by Sub Registrar Officer, Chimakurthy as a Data Entry Operator in their office. An unauthorized amount of Rs.10,000/- was found in the possession of Sri K. Rama Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer which was given to Sub Registrar Office through Private person Sri Boddu Rama Rao and the same was seized.

Article of Charge No.III:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has illegally collected an amount of Rs.31,380/- through unauthorized private person, document and Assistant document writers and failed to account the same, out of which Rs.21,380/- was collected through one unauthorized person Boddu Rama Rao. During the surprise check, an unauthorized amount of Rs. 10,000/- was found in the possession of K.Rama Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer which is to be given to Sub Registrar Office through the aforesaid private person."

Basis of Charge :

During the Surprise check, the DSP questioned about the identity of the 5 persons who took to heels on seeing the ACB party. They disclosed their identity as i.e. 1) Mannam Rama Krishna, S/o Subba Rao, age 35-yrs, Document Writer, MRO office Road, Chimakurthy, 2) Kota Ram Mohan Rao, S/o Narasimha Rao, age 33 yrs, Asst. Document Writer R/o Manduvavaripalem (V), Ongole (M), 3) Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Private Data Entry Operator, Yadava by caste, Kanchukota bazaar, Chimakurthy and 4) Puli Nageswara Rao, S/o Gurumurthy, age 35-yrs, yadava by caste, Doddavaram (V), Maddipadu (M) who worked as Attender unofficially in the SRO Office, Chimakurthy and 5) Sri Mannam Srinivasa Rao, S/o Venkateswarlu, age 47-yrs, Kamma by caste, Eluruvaripalem (V), Chimakurthy (M) who came to SRO office, Chimakurty for putting his sign as witness in the document.

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On examination of Sri Boddu Rama Rao disclosed his identity as Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Private Data Entry Operator, O/o Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy, he stated that he was engaged unauthorisedly by the Sub Registrar Office Smt. T. Hame Latha to act as Private Data Entry Operator and he will be paid Rs.15000/- per month by the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy and entrusted the duty of collecting mamools at the rate of 1% on the sale consideration value of the document from the document writers. He added that the document writers would bring the mamools to the Sub Registrar Office with regard to the documents presented by them on that particular day during that evening or on the next day morning and give the same to him. In turn, he would hand over the total amount of collected mamools to Joint Sub-Registrar, Chimakurthy at the end of the day before the closing time of the office and those mamools would be distributed among other staff of Sub Registrar Office also. He produced an amount of Rs. 21,380/- which was collected illegally from the parties who came to the Sub Registrar Office for registration of their properties and the same was seized.

On examination of 1) Sri Mannam Rama Krishna, Document Writer and 2) Sri Kota Ram Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer to Sri Mannam Rama Krishna (Document Writer, they categorically stated that on the instructions of the Joint Sub Registrar, Chimakurhy they collect mamools from the parties approaching them to give the mamools to the staff of Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy. Generally, they collect mamool amount on par with the registration fee i.e., one percent of the value of the sale deed and some parties do oblige and some parties do not. They are being paid 10% of the amount, in fee to fee mamool which was collected by them, as their commission (for collecting mamools) on behalf of Sub Registrar Office. On the day of surprise check i.e., 15.03.2017 he prepared two documents in the morning and while going to Ongole he entrusted the duty of presenting the documents to his Assistant Kota Rama Mohan Rao. After his return from Ongole, Rama Mohan Rao informed that both the documents presented by them were registered vide Doc.Nos.427/2017 & 428/2017 and the party which got registered document No.428/2017 wherein the sale consideration value was Rs.34,85,000/- and the mamools supposed to be around Rs.35,000/-, gave Rs.10,000/- only towards mamools to the Sub Registrar Office. They pay mamools to Sri Boddu Rama Rao, who was unauthorizedly engaged by Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy as a Data Entry Operator in their office. An unauthorized amount of Rs.10,000/- was found in the possession of Sri K. Rama Mohan Rao, Asst. Document Writer which was given to Sub Registrar Office through Private person Sri Boddu Rama Rao and the same was seized.

During the Surprise check, an amount of Rs.31,380/- was seized which was illegally collected by unauthorized private person, document and Assistant document writers and the Sub Registrar Office failed to account for the same out of which Rs.21,380/- was collected through the unauthorized person Boddu Rama Rao and Rs.10,000/- was found in the possession of K.Rama Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer which is to be given to Sub Registrar Office through private person.

During the Surprise check, on examination of Sri Puli Nageswara Rao, S/o Gurumurthy, age 35-yrs, yadava by caste, Doddavaram (V), Maddipadu (M), Prakasam district stated and admitted before the mediators that he has been engaged by the Sub Registrar Office Smt. T. Hema Latha to act as an Attender unofficially in the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy since about 2 years and he is being paid Rs.7000/- per month by the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy. He brings Tiffins, Meals, Coffee/Tea extra to the staff working in Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy.

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During the Surprise check, in the presence of mediators, on perusal of the Personal Cash Register-2017, it is found that the she failed to declare cash of Rs.200/- in her possession in the Personal Cash Register-2017 on the day of Surprise check i.e. on 15.03.2017 and the same were seized.

When she was questioned in the presence of the mediators about allowing unauthorized persons like private Attender Sri Puli Nageswara Rao and Private Computer Operator Sri Boddu Rama Rao unauthorizedly within Sub Registrar Office, recovery of Rs.21,380/- and two slips (in which the details of document Nos. and illegal gratification from the parties were noted) from the possession of Sri Boddu Rama Rao and about the presence of document writer and his assistant in the premises of Sub Registrar office and recovery of Rs. 10,000/- from the possession of K.Rama Mohan Rao, Assistant Document Writer and their collecting mamools through them, she remained silent.

Article of Charge No.IV:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar has allowed Sri Puli Nageswara Rao to work as Attendar unauthorizedly in the SRO's office, Chimakurthy by paying monthly salary in violation of instructions issued vide Circular Memo No X1/3945/07, dt.02-05-2007 of Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad."

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

During the Surprise check, the Deputy Superintendent of Police questioned about the identity of Sri Puli Nageswara Rao disclosed his identity as Puli Nageswara Rao, S/o Gurumurthy, age 35-yrs, yadava by caste, Doddavaram (V), Maddipadu (M). On examination he stated he has been engaged by the Sub Registrar Office Smt. T.Hema Latha to act as an Attender unofficially in the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy since about 2 years and he is being paid Rs.7000/- per month by the Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy. He brings Tiffins, Meals, Coffee/Tea extra to the staff working in Sub Registrar Office, Chimakurthy.

Article of Charge No.V:

"That you Smt.T.Hemalatha, Joint Sub-Registrar failed to declare any amount in her possession in Personal Cash Register and she was found to be having Rs.200/- in her possession during surprise check in violation of G.O.Ms.No.200, General Administration (Ser-C) Department, Dt.26.3.2007, Andhra Pradesh."

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

During the Surprise check, on perusal of the Personal Cash Register-2017 in the presence of mediators, it is found that she failed to declare cash of Rs.200/- which is in her possession in the Personal Cash Register-2017 on the day of Surprise check i.e. on 15.03.2017 and the same were seized.

Thus Smt. Tavva Hema Latha, by her above mentioned acts has violated Rule 3 (1), 3 (2) & 9 (8) (B) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964. The Government Servant has therefore rendered herself liable for departmental action under major penalty.

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF WITNESSES

(1) Surprise Check proceedings dated 15/16.03.2017 drafted in the Sub-Registrar office, Addanki, Prakasam district.

(2) Two written slips: Seized from the possession of Sri Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Yadava by caste, Kanchukota bazaar, Chimakurthy: In which the details of document nos. and collecting of fees to fees (illegal gratifications from the parties) were noted.

(3) Seized cash of Rs.31,580/- i.e., Rs.21,380/- from the possession of Sri Boddu Rama Rao and Rs.10,000/- from the possession of Sri Kota Rama Mohan Rao, Asst. Document Writer, which proves the collection of fees to fees (illegal gratification from the parties) and Rs.200/- from the possession of Smt. T. Hema Latha, Joint SRO, Chimakurthy (undeclared amount).

(4) Signed Statement of Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Yadava by caste, Kanchukota bazaar, Chimakurthy: (Private collection agent cum Private Data Entry Operator).

(5) Signed Statement of Kota Ram Mohan Rao, S/o Narasimha Rao, age 33 yrs, Asst. Document Writer, R/o Manduvavaripalem (V), Ongole (M),

(6) Signed Statement of Puli Nageswara Rao, S/o Gurumurthy, age 35-yrs, yadava by caste, Doddavaram (V), Maddipadu (M): (Private Attender)

(7) Rough Sketch to the Scene of offence.

(8) Personal Cash Register, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District.

(9) A-Account Register, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District.

(10) G- Account Register, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District.

(11) H- Account Register, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District.

(12) Attendance Register, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District.

(13) Any documents found relevant will be produced during the enquiry.

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF RECORDS

(1) Sri Bondili Jayaram Singh, S/o Janaki Ram Singh, age 41-yrs, Sub Treasury Officer, O/o DTO, Ongole (1st Mediator)

(2) Sri Pallapu Anka Babu, S/o Venkateswarlu, age 36-yrs, Sr. Accountant, O/o DTO, Ongole (2nd Mediator)

(3) Sri Boddu Rama Rao, S/o Guravaiah, age 35-yrs, Private Data Entry Operator, O/o SRO, Chimakurthy, Yadava by caste, Kanchukota bazaar, Chimakurthy (V&M), Prakasam District.

(4) Sri Mannam Rama Krishna s/o Subba Rao, age 35 yrs, Document Writer, R/o MRO office road, Chimakurthy (V&M), Prakasam District.

(5) Sri Kota Ram Mohan Rao, S/o Narasimha Rao, age 33 yrs, Asst. Document Writer, R/o Manduvavaripalem (V), Ongole (M)

(6) Sri Mannam Srinivasa Rao, S/o Venkateswarlu, age 47-yrs, Kamma by caste, Eluruvaripalem (V), Chimakurthy (M).

(7) Sri Puli Nageswara Rao S/o Gurumurthy, age 35-yrs, yadava by caste, Doddavaram (V),. Maddipadu (M)

(8) Sri R.V.S.N. Murty, formerly DSP, ACB, Prakasam Dist., Ongole.

(9) Sri T.V.V. Pratap Kumar, Inspector, ACB, Ongole.

(10) Sri T.Sanjeevi Kumar, Inspector, ACB, Ongole.

(11) Any other witnesses found relevant will be produced during the enquiry.

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

SECTION OFFICER